### OKOLONA MESSENGER

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#### CHRISTMAS BAN IN 1643

Yuletide Observance Was Not Permitted by Edict of "Roundhead Parliament" in England.



N THE northern part of Europe the ancient people kindled great fires to their gods, Odin and Thor, and sacrifices of men and cattle

Saxons termed this festival or feast "Yule," and we still use the word "Yuletide" in our day. Among the Teutons this holiday season was celebrated by decorating glant fir trees. The decorations consisted of lights, nuts, balls, golden apples and animals. These were to symbolize flashes of lightning, moon, stars and sun, while the animals represented sacrifices.

were made. The ancient Goths and

Christmas was not among the early festivals of the church. We find the first evidence of the feast from Egypt, according to the historians of the church, and December 25 was not the day on which it was universally celebrated. It was not until the Fourth or Fifth centuries that the celebration of the festival on this day spread to the East. The Nativity was celebrated December 25 at Rome before 354, and at Constantinople, not prior

As paganism began to be supplanted by Christianity, many of the old customs were taken and handed down through the generations. In the Anglo-Saxon days of King Alfred the holiday season began December 16 and \*closed January 6. When Puritanism arose in England the fate of Christmas was threatened for a time, and even extended to this country, since the Puritans brought along with them to New England a feeling against the -celebration of Christmas.

In 1643 the "Roundhead parliament" in England put a ban on the observance of Christmas. The court of Massachusetts in 1659 followed England's example and Christmas was put under a ban there. With the restoration of the English royalty the restoration of Christmas was brought about, and Massachusetts again followed England's example and in 1661 the ban , was lifted. From this time on Christmas has remained, and is now celebrated throughout the entire civilized world.



## 但我在我我我我我我我不敢

A Christmas "Suppose"

Children's Change the But suppose all the grown-up people were to say to one another: "This year, instead of my giving you a present and your giving me a present, let us club together and give our present to some poor child who will not have any Christmas. There are hundreds of them somewhere. Or, If we do not know of such a child, let us give our present to a hospital for children, a home for crippled children, for incurables, for the aged, the blind, the feeble-minded." This to be, of course, in addition to what we usually give to charities at this season. Why could we not try this as an experiment, and see what the result would be?-Christian Reg-

できるとうさきととととかん

The Quinine That Does Not Affect The Head Because of its tonic and laxative effect, LAXA in the head. E.W.GROVE'S signature on box. Wo.



That every added subscriber helps to make this peper better for everybody

## 000000000000000 Christmas Collars

By MARY GRAHAM BONNER 0000000000000000



him, him. love love him," Ag-nes Allen sald. And as she was alone in her room, and as no one could hear her, naturally there was no answer

to her statement which she had repeated several

She was speaking of George Farwell. George was so good looking with his wonderful blue eyes, his brown hair, his fine erect figure.

Wherever she saw men she thought how insignificant they looked beside

George. She was glad that she thought that way. She hoped others thought that way about the men they cared for. Then everything would be so smooth and so simple.

She wanted everyone to like her George immensely. But it would be embarrassing if everyone thought just the same about him as she did.

The wedding was to be Christmas afternoon. -

Then they had planned to go to their own new little home which they had just finished furnishing and fixing up. They were going to have their own little Christmas tree there—quite by themselves. and their friends had left their weddieg presents and their Christmas presents there, though almost all of the former they had seen, of course, "Are you almost ready?" It was

Mrs. Allen calling up the stairs. "Almost, mother dear," she an-

"You'll be late," her mother called. "I'll hurry," she said.

Do you want any help?" But she had taken longer than she had thought. Yes, if she didn't hurry she would be late! Still she would have George all her life now. How wonderful it would be! She wondered If that was why brides were so often late because they felt they had so

It was a gloriously happy thought to realize how much time she had,

She was only ten minutes late. The few friends were at the Christmas day wedding. And her bouquet was of holly and mistletoe. She had always said she would love to have such a wedding bouquet. It would be so merry and Christmasy and such a happy, gay kind of a bouquet.

George had consented of course. He agreed to everything she said, because he loved her so, and she was so fair with him, too, because she loved him so !

The ceremony was over. They drove away in a low sleigh with fingling bells to the small house, There, by themselves, they opened presents. What a glorious time they

And she had a little surprise for him. Just a little bit of a surprise. But she knew he would like it.

"Open that box, there, George," she

He opened It.

And looked at some collars, many, many collars, all much too big for

"When I was buying my wedding clothes in town that time, George, I remembered



of a wonderful kind of collar you liked. I remembered the name too, I was a little puzzled when the man asked me your size. I told him though that as long as he had the right kind the size "didn't make any difference. When he asked me if you were blg or small I told him you were big of course! .

"Why, George, what is the matter? Won't they fit you? Is the size so important?"

"My darling little girl," he laughed, what does it matter what the size is. That is-it does matter about wearing them I'm afraid, my love, But to think you thought of me even when you were getting the wedding fineries and remembered the name of the collar.

"They're my Christmas collars," he exclaimed, "and I'll put them away in the box with the Christmas bouquet we're going to save. Such a Christmas gift from a dear little bride should never be mangled by any laundry!"

"What a silly I am," she laughed gally. "But 'such an adorable silly." leorge answered as he kinned her.

## Christmas Wedding Bells

By MARY GRAHAM BONNER



IZABETH had always, it is true, admired Howard. was so faithful and good and reliable. He had been good to his mother and his sister. Every-

one know he would be good to a wife, and they all knew, too, that he wanted Elizabeth for his wife.

"You're foolish not to take him," they said "We all know you have the oppo unity to do so every time he goes to see you. We would wager he'd proposed any number of times." "I don't know about that," Elizabeth would laugh. They could get nothing out of her.

Once some of them spoke to How-"We wish you two would get mar-

ried. We're tired of seeing you courting all the time." Howard smiled.

"It's up to Elizabeth," he said. One woman spoke to Elizabeth one day in a very serious fashion.

"The trouble with you," the woman said, "Is that you've always had so much attention. Not only Howard, but everyone has been charmed by you, and you think that will go on to the end of time. You'll find it won't. They'll stop, and then, where will you be?"

"I don't want to be married so as to escape being an old maid," Eli# abeth laughed. "I've seen too many happy ones to be afraid. What's



more-I think a lot more of a person who is faithful to someone they've loved than to marry for the sake of marrying. Bots of the "old maids" are that. Some of the married ones have been so afraid they'd be thought unpopular and unwanted that they've married out of sheer cowardice.'

This was very puzzling. Had Elizabeth loved someone in her earlier days-perhaps when she had gane away on a visit? No one knew, But everyone was puzzled. So much puz zled that they asked no more questions. They stopped telling her she should marry Howard. They stopped telling her what a wonderful husband would make, and how much he loved her.

They were speculating on which vis it it could have been when the tragedy occurred. And had the mysterious man married or had he been already married and so Elizabeth, as a nice, quiet girl had quickly taken herself home and out of the way?

It was snowing hard, Elizabeth was getting together her Christmas presents when the door bell rang. Outside stood Howard. "I thought perhaps you'd not mind if I went with you when you took

around the presents," he said. "I, knew it was just about your time." How lovely it was outside. The snow was falling, the air was so clear



straight and tall, his face glowing with health, his eyes so clear, so keen and so devoted. It made even the cold, crisp air seem warm and soft and affectionate.

They had delivered the presents and were now passing the small church. Inside someone was practic ing on the organ. That was doubtless the organist practicing for the music for the service in the morning. There was much beautiful music always for Christmas! So many wonderful hymns, and such an atmosphere about it all.

"I wish," Howard said, "that he'd stop practicing the Christmas music and play us a wedding march."

"Perhaps he would," said Elizabeth, "Do you mean it?" Howard shouted, "Oh yes, my dear, of course I mean it. You've not said a word about marrying the last four times I've seen you and I've been about to do it myself. The people—they tried to keep me from seeing how wonderful you were by talking about you, making you what they saw in you-not giving

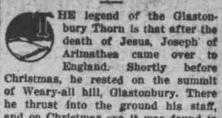
me a chance to see for myself." The organist played the wedding march. The clergyman come over hurriedly to marry them, bringing two witnesses with him. "The Christmas bells and the wed-

ding bells are joining together for us," Howard said a little later. They took the basket which had had the presents in it back home. Then they announced to all the peo-

ple what they had done. "Merrie Christmas I" everyon wished them. But Elizabeth answered "We don't need to be wished Merris Christmas, but we thank you all just the same!"

#### WITH THE CHRISTMAS PLANTS

Trees and Flewers Are Balleved Owe Peculiarities to Connection With Jesus.



and on Christmas eve it was found to be covered with white blossoms. The bush is said to have continued blooming thus each Christmas eve until during the civil wars, when it was cut down. Cuttings from the original thorn are said to bloom in this same wonderful way even yet,

The Silician children put penny royal in their cots on Christmas eve, believing that at the exact hour and minute when Jesus was born it will

There is a cherished legend in the East that the Rose of Jericho first blossomed at the birth of Jesus, closed at the crucifixion, and opened again at Easter, from which comes its name of Resurrection flower.

Many plants, trees and flowers are believed to owe their peculiarities to their connection with the birth or the childhood of Jesus. "The Star of Bethlehem" is so called because its white starlike flowers resemble the pictures of the Star of the East.

"Our Lady's Bedstraw" received its name because it was believed that the manger in which the Babe lay was filled with this plant,

An old account tells the story in this manner: "The broom and the chick-peas began to rustle and crackle, and by this noise betrayed the fugitives. The flax bristled up. Happily for her, Mary was near a juniper; the hospitable tree opened its branches as arms and inclosed the Virgin and the Child within their folds, affording them a secure hiding place. Then the Virgin uttered a malediction against the brooms and the chick-peas, and ever since that day they have always rustled and crackled. But later the Virgin pardoned the flax its weakness and gave the juniper her blessing," which is said to account for the use of the juniper as Christmas decorations in some countries.



## 心沉积,你们是成为,而不是不是不是不是不是不是不是,他们就是一个

Adeste Fideles

HIS well-known and greatly loved Christmas hymn was used at Benediction at Christmastide in France and England since the close of the Eighteenth century. It was sung at the Portuguese legation in London as early as 1797. The most popular musical setting was ascribed by Vincent Novelle, organist there, to John Readfing, who was organist at Winchester cathedral from 1675-81, and later at Winchester college. The hymn itself has been attributed to St. Bonaventure, but is not found among his works. It is probably of French or do .man authorship. It invites all the faithful to come to Bethlehem to worship the new-born Savior.-Catholic Encyclopedia.

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Roast Pig. Have your butcher prepare the pig for roasting and lay him in cold water for fifteen minutes. Dry him inside and out with a soft cloth. Make a stuffing of bread crumbs, seasoned to taste with salt, pepper, parsley, sweetmarjoram and thyme; moisten with butter, and work into the dressing two beaten eggs. Stuff the plg so that he will hold his original size and shape, and after sewing him up hend his fore legs backward and his hind legs forward under him. Skewer or tie him in this attitude and after dredging him well with flour put him, with a little water, in a covered roaster. Roast for an hour and a half before removing the cover, then rub him well with butter, baste him with the gravy in the pan and roast half an hour longer, basting twice during that time. Apple sauce should be served with him, a lemon should be in his mouth, cranberries in his eye sockets.-The Delin-



IN DOUBT Wifey - This

year you must what you are going to give me for Christmas. Hubby - But how do I know what you have decided upon?

Christmas in the Shotlands, In the Shetland islands they cele brate an old Christmas Eve, January 5, and on that occasion the young men and children go "a-guising." The children disguise themselves in strange dresses, parade the streets and in vade the houses and shops begging for offerings. At one o'clock the young men, coarsely clad, drag blazing tar barrels through the town, blowing horns and cheering. At six o'clock in the morning they put off their grimy ciothes and dressed in fantastic costumes go in groups to wish their friends the season's compliments.

Notice of Trustee's Sale of Land according to the Tift's survey of

G. W. and Sara Hunt, his wife, of the first part, the undersign-Deeds at Houston, Chickasaw point of beginning. County, Mississippi, said Trust Deed being given to secure a note for (\$650) Six Hundred and Fifty Dollars.

the payment of said note and in me as trustee. agreeable to the terms of said Trust Deed, I. W. P. Knox, Trustee, will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, in front of the Court House door in the City of Okolona, Chickasaw County, Mississippi, on the First Monday being the 6th day of February. 1922, the following described land, to-wit:-

South side of Washington Street per tottle.

By virtue of the provisions of the City of Okolons, and more a Trustee Deed executed on the particularly as beginning at 27th day of December, 1919, by point on the Western boundary line of said lot (275) (140) feel South of the North-West corner ed of the second part and the of said lot renning thence south Okolona Banking Company of (150) feet, thence East (862) the third part, said Trust Deed feet, thence North along the being recorded in Book 133, Page Eastern boundary line of said 299 of the Records of Trust lot (150) feet thence West to the

> There are three houses of this property.

The title to this land is believed to be good, but I will con-Default having been made in vey only such title as is vested

> W. P. Knox, Trustee.

Irlend indeed. - Answers, London heed who is not in need Quite 8e.

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"LAX-FOS WITH PEPSIN" is a specially-A certain lot or parcel of land described as (150) feet off of the South end of lot (275) on the South end of Washington South



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